

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-10 USSS-00 SS-20 NSC-10

JUSE-00 DRC-01 /069 W

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FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1655

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0002

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T CURACAO 0010

CARACAS FOR DEA

DEPT PASS TREASURY FOR ACTION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CFED, SNAR, NA,, VE

SUBJECT: REQUEST TDY OF TREASURY AGENT FOR COUNTERFEIT INVESTIGATION

1. TODAY ARUBA POLICE CHIEF OLDENBOOM (NETHERLANDS ANTILLES DRUG COORDINATOR) CALLED ON ME AND REQUESTED U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE IN MAKING AVAILABLE ONE OR TWO EXPERTS IN COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY.

2. OLDENBOOM REPORTED THAT ONE OF HIS AGENTS HAS WITNESSED CHEMICAL REPRODUCTION OF NETHERLANDS ANTILLES CURRENCY AND HAS KNOWLEDGE THAT U.S. CURRENCY HAS ALSO BEEN COUNTERFEITED BY THE SAME METHOD. METHOD IS CHEMICAL STRIPPING OF LOWER DENOMINATION BILL, AND CHEMICAL TRANSFER OF INK FROM HIGHTER DENOMINATION TO STRIPPED BILL. OLDENBOOM EXHIBITED ONE OF THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

BILLS THAT HAD BEEN COUNTERFEITED AND AS A NON-EXPERT I COULD NOT TELL THE DIFFERENCE FROM A GENUINE

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BILL, PARTICULARLY SINCE PAPER IS GENUINE, AND NO

ENGRAVING DEFECTS ARE VISIBLE;

3. DEA CARACAS IS ALSO INVOLVED IN THIS INVESTIGATION WITH ONGOING DRUG CASE. ANY AGENT SENT TO NETHERLANDS ANTILLES SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO TRAVEL TO C RACAS.

4. OLDENBOOM IS OF OPINION THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST COUNTERFEIT OPERATIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA AND DESIRES COOPERATION OF USG AS THERE HAS ALSO BEEN A RECENT RASH OF COUNTERFEIT U.S. BILLS SURFACING IN THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES.

5. OLDENBOOM REQUESTS AGENTS TRAVEL TO ARUBA AS SOON AS POSSIB E, REGISTER IN LOCAL HOTEL AND CONTACT HIM AT OFFICE PHONE 2177 OR HOME PHONE *1289**MMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL. HE WILL THEN ARRANGE TO MEET THEM.

6. CONGEN STRONGLY RECOMMENDS USG COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER. IT IS REQUESTED THAT CONGEN BE INFORMED BY IMMEDIATE TELEGRAM DATE OF ARRIVAL IN ARUBA OF SPECIAL AGENTS IN ORDER IT CAN ALERT OLDENBOOM.

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005